

C&EE 141

Tension Members

# Tension Members

- Definition
  - Structural elements subjected to axial forces that cause elongation
- Applications
  - Hanging supports
  - Chords of trusses that are in tension
  - Tension only rods
  - Braces
- Be Careful
  - Often braces resist both tension and compression forces

# Hangers





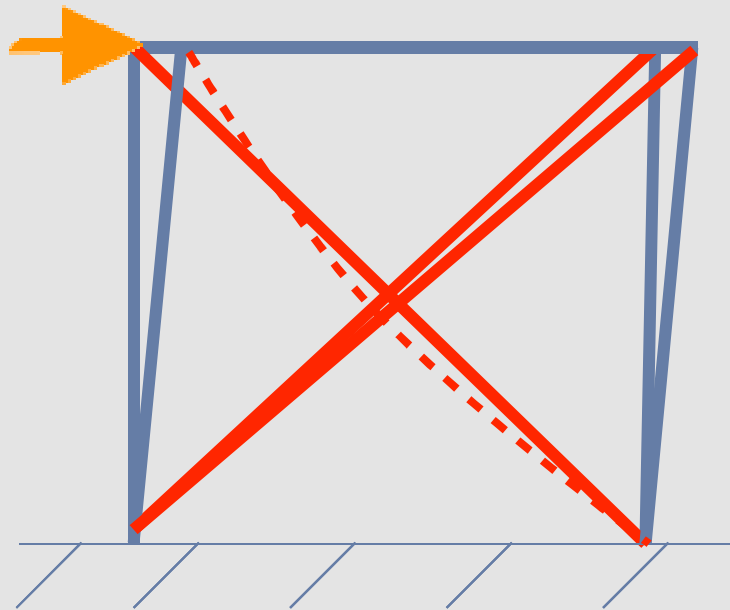
# Trusses

- Members in Compression
- Members in Tension





# Bracing for Lateral Forces



# Any X-Section Can Be Used



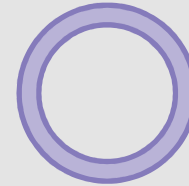
Flat Bars



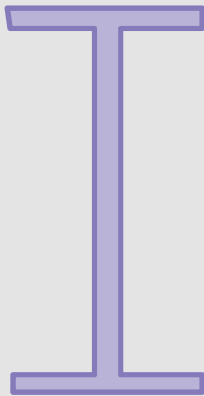
Round Bars



Tubes



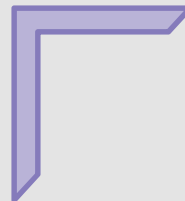
Pipes



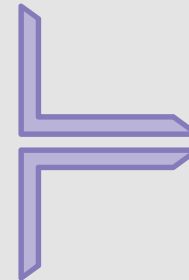
W and S  
Shapes



Channels



Single  
Angles



Double  
Angles



# Stress in Axially-Loaded Tension Member

$$f = P / A$$

Stress = Load Divided By Area

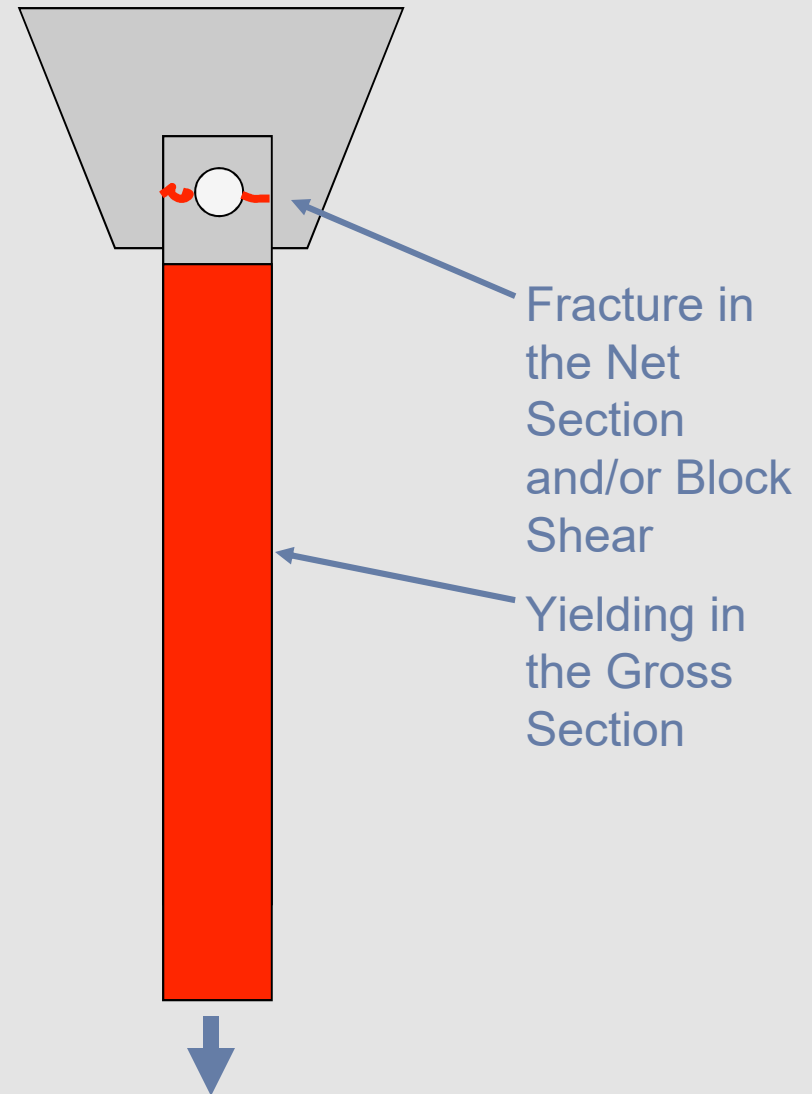
# Simple Example

- Select a member with sufficient area to resist the load
  - $P = 100\text{k}$
  - $f = 25\text{ ksi}$
  - $A = ?\text{ in}^2$



# Limit States for Tension Behavior

1. Yielding of the gross section
  - intended to prevent excessive elongation of the member
2. Fracture of the net section
  - e.g. when there are bolt holes present
3. Serviceability
4. Block Shear



# Limit States on Tensile Strength

Prevent Yielding of the Gross X-Section

$$P_n = F_y A_g$$

$A_g$  = Gross Area

- Design Capacity =  $\Phi_t P_n$  where  $\Phi_t = 0.9$
- Refer to Spec Section D2
- $F_y$  per AISC Table 2-4 or 2-5

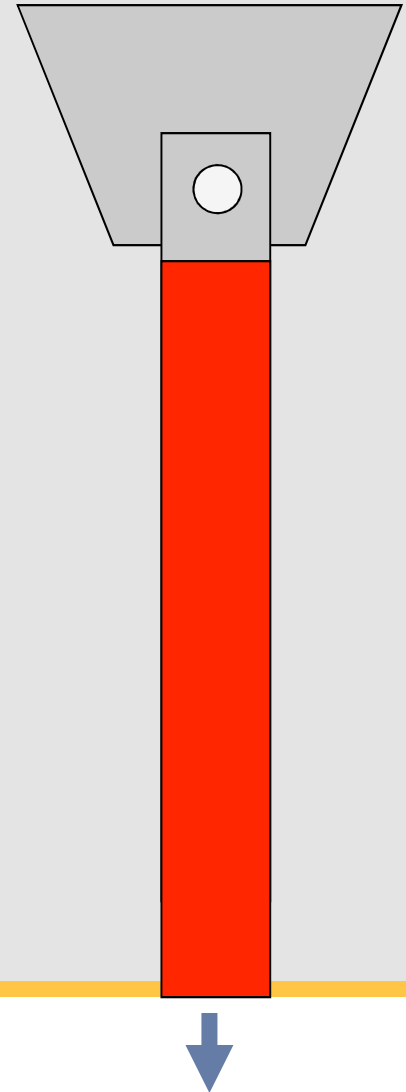


Table 2-4  
Applicable ASTM Specifications  
for Various Structural Shapes

Steel Type	ASTM Designation	$F_y$ Min. Yield Stress (ksi)	$F_u$ Tensile Strength (ksi)	Applicable Shape Series								HSS Round	Pipe
				W	M	S	HP	C	MC	L	Rect.		
Carbon	A36	36	58-80*										
	A572 Gr. 50	50	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 55	55	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 60	60	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 65	65	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 70	70	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 75	75	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 80	80	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 85	85	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 90	90	65-80*										
High-Strength Low-Alloy	A572 Gr. 50	50	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 55	55	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 60	60	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 65	65	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 70	70	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 75	75	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 80	80	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 85	85	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 90	90	65-80*										
	A572 Gr. 100	100	65-80*										
Corrosion Resistant	A242	42	58-80*										
	A242	48	58-80*										
	A242	50	58-80*										
	A242	55	58-80*										
	A242	60	58-80*										
	A242	65	58-80*										
	A242	70	58-80*										
	A242	75	58-80*										
	A242	80	58-80*										
	A242	85	58-80*										

\* Preferred material specification  
 \* Use applicable material specification, the availability of which should be confirmed prior to specification  
 \* Material specification does not apply



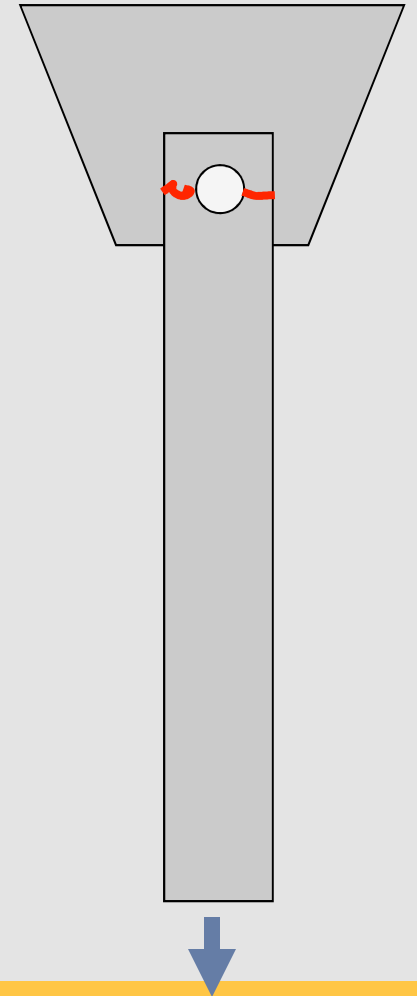
# Limit States on Tensile Strength

Prevent Rupture of the Net Section

$$P_n = F_u A_e$$

$A_e$  = Effective Net Area

- Design Capacity =  $\Phi_t P_n$  where  $\Phi_t = 0.75$
- Refer to Spec Section D2
- $F_u$  per AISC Table 2-4 or 2-5



# Area Determination

- Gross Area (Spec B4.3a)
  - Total cross-sectional area
- Net Area (Spec B4.3b)
  - Reduced cross-sectional area because of bolts or other holes
- Effective Net Area (Spec D3)
  - Reduced cross-sectional area because of *shear lag*



# Net Area

- When a connection involves bolts, holes are required
- Therefore, the member x-sectional area is reduced
- In turn, the tensile capacity may be reduced

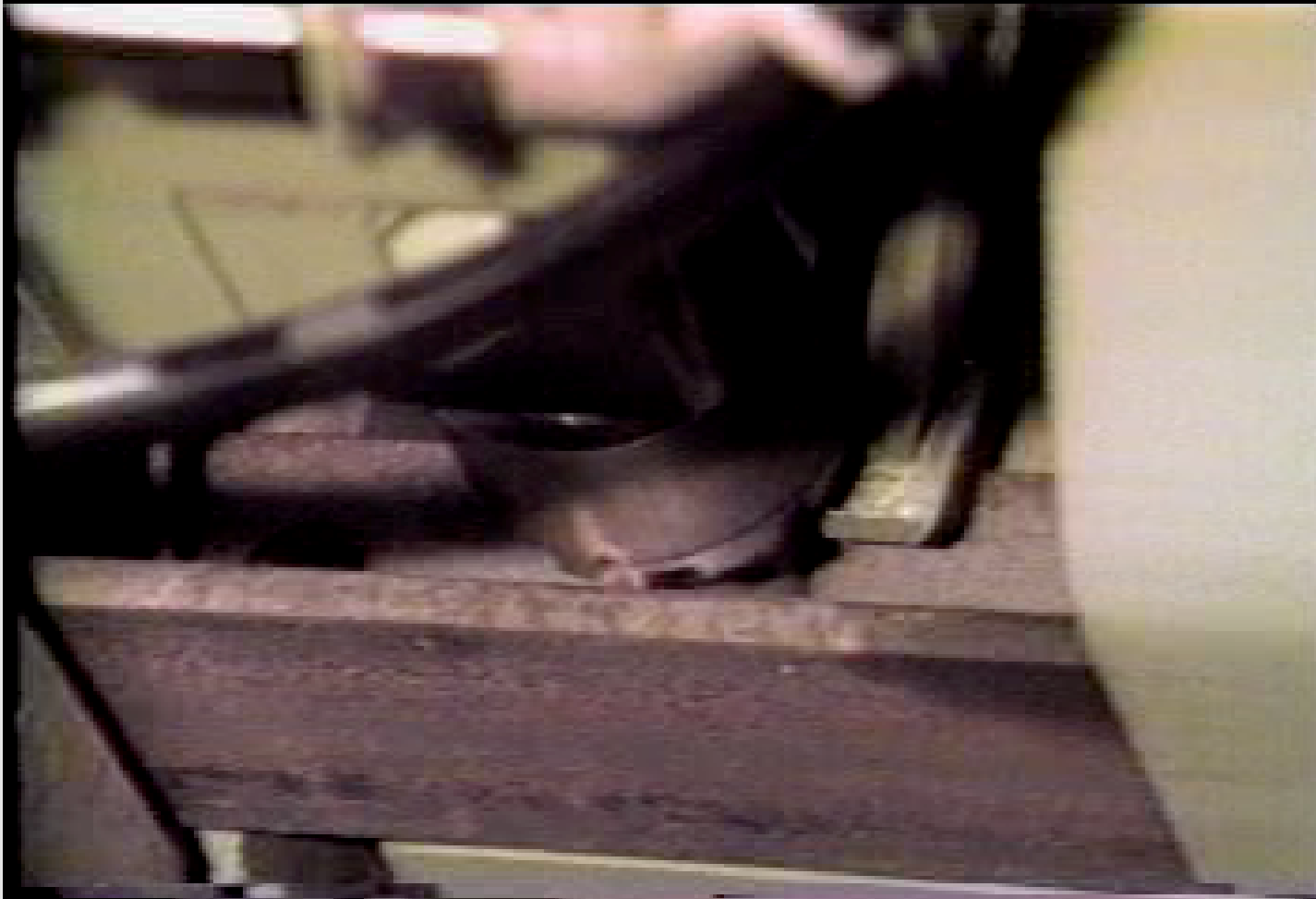
# Hole Types

- Standard Sized Holes
  - Punched
    - 1/16 inch oversized (but assume 1/8...more on that later)
    - Most common process
    - Should be assumed unless otherwise specified
  - Sub-Punched and Reamed
    - Not oversized
    - Expensive process, used only when tight fit-up required
  - Drilled
    - 1/32 inch oversized
    - Done for very thick plates
- Also: Oversized (OS), Short-Slotted (SSL), and Long-Slotted (LSL) Holes

# Drilled Holes



# Punched Holes



# Nominal Hole Dimensions

Spec J3.2

**TABLE J3.3**  
**Nominal Hole Dimensions, in.**

Bolt Diameter, in.	Hole Dimensions			
	Standard (Dia.)	Oversize (Dia.)	Short-Slot (Width × Length)	Long-Slot (Width × Length)
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{9}{16} \times \frac{11}{16}$	$\frac{9}{16} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$
$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{11}{16}$	$\frac{13}{16}$	$\frac{11}{16} \times \frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{11}{16} \times 1\frac{9}{16}$
$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{13}{16}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$\frac{13}{16} \times 1$	$\frac{13}{16} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$
$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{15}{16}$	$1\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{15}{16} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{15}{16} \times 2\frac{3}{16}$
1	$1\frac{1}{16}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{16} \times 1\frac{5}{16}$	$1\frac{1}{16} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$
$\geq 1\frac{1}{8}$	$d + \frac{1}{16}$	$d + \frac{5}{16}$	$(d + \frac{1}{16}) \times (d + \frac{3}{8})$	$(d + \frac{1}{16}) \times (2.5 \times d)$

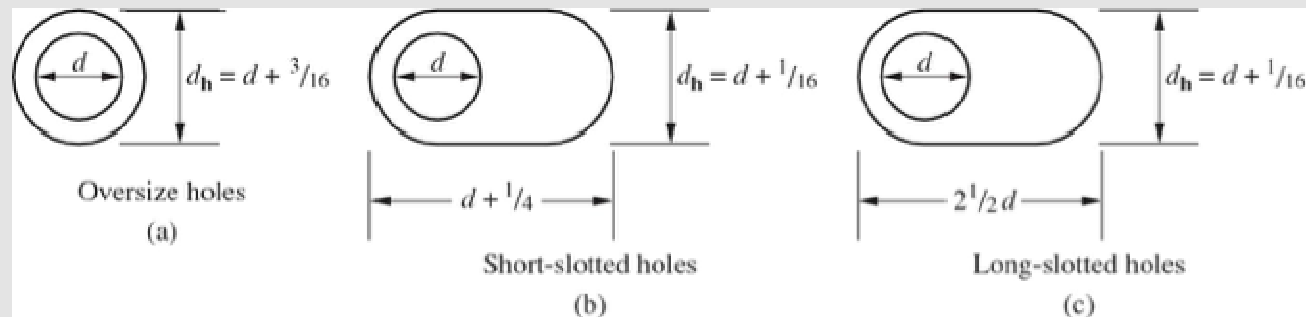


Figure 4.14  
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# Hole Punching

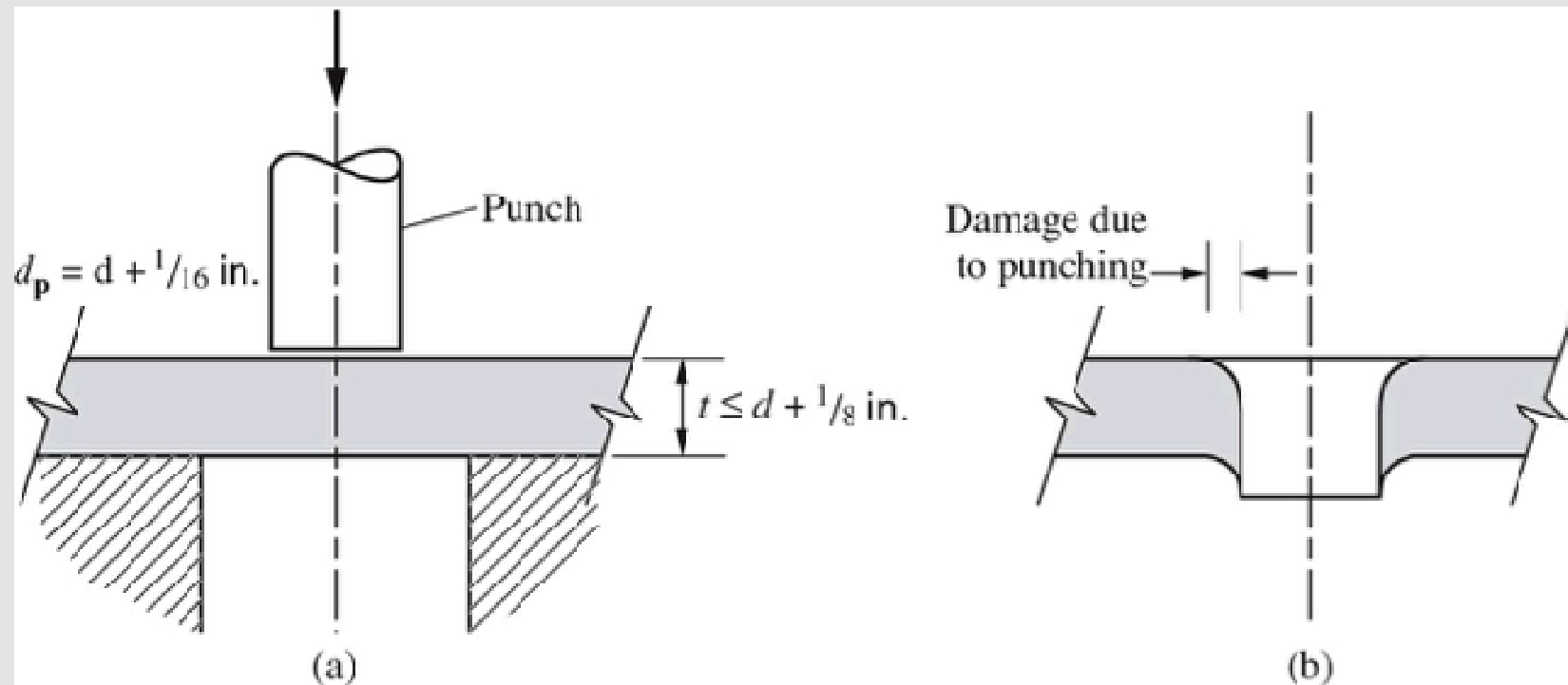
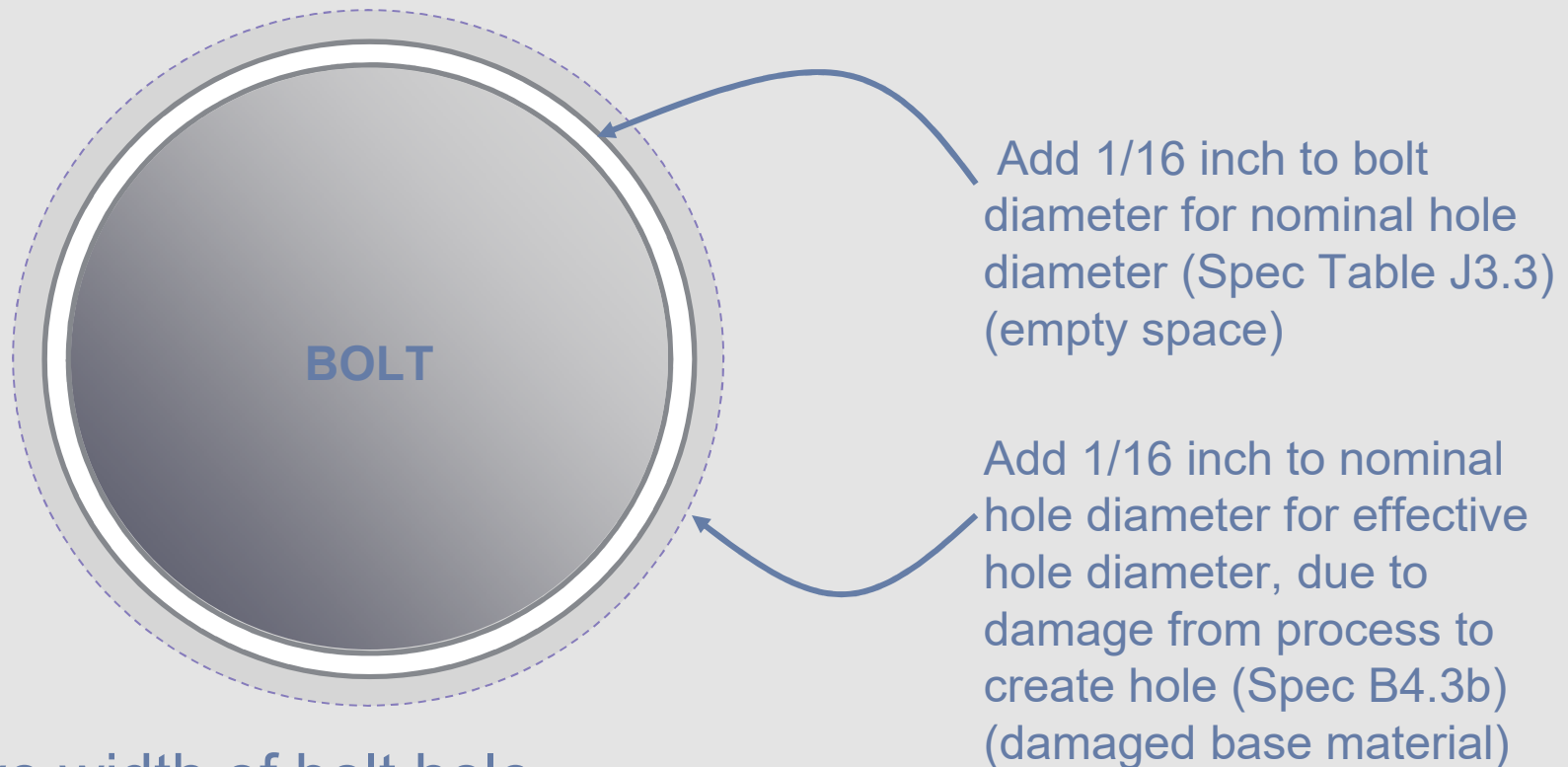


Figure 4.12  
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# Effective Width of a Standard Bolt Hole



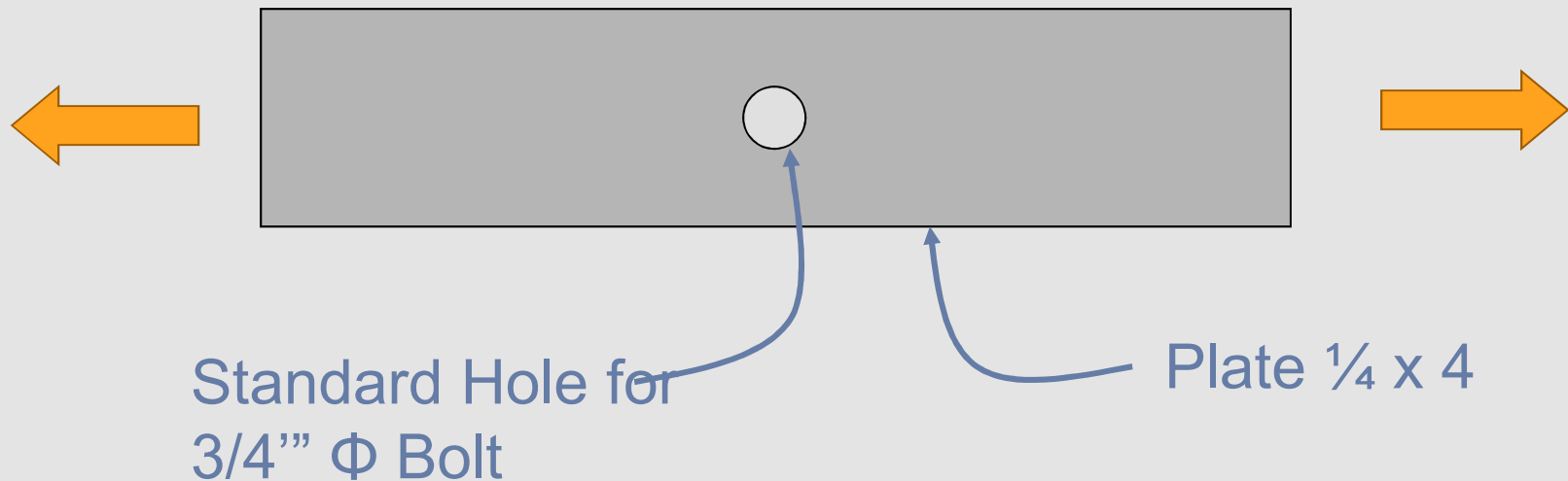
Effective width of bolt hole

= the bolt diameter + 1/16" (oversize) + 1/16" (damage)

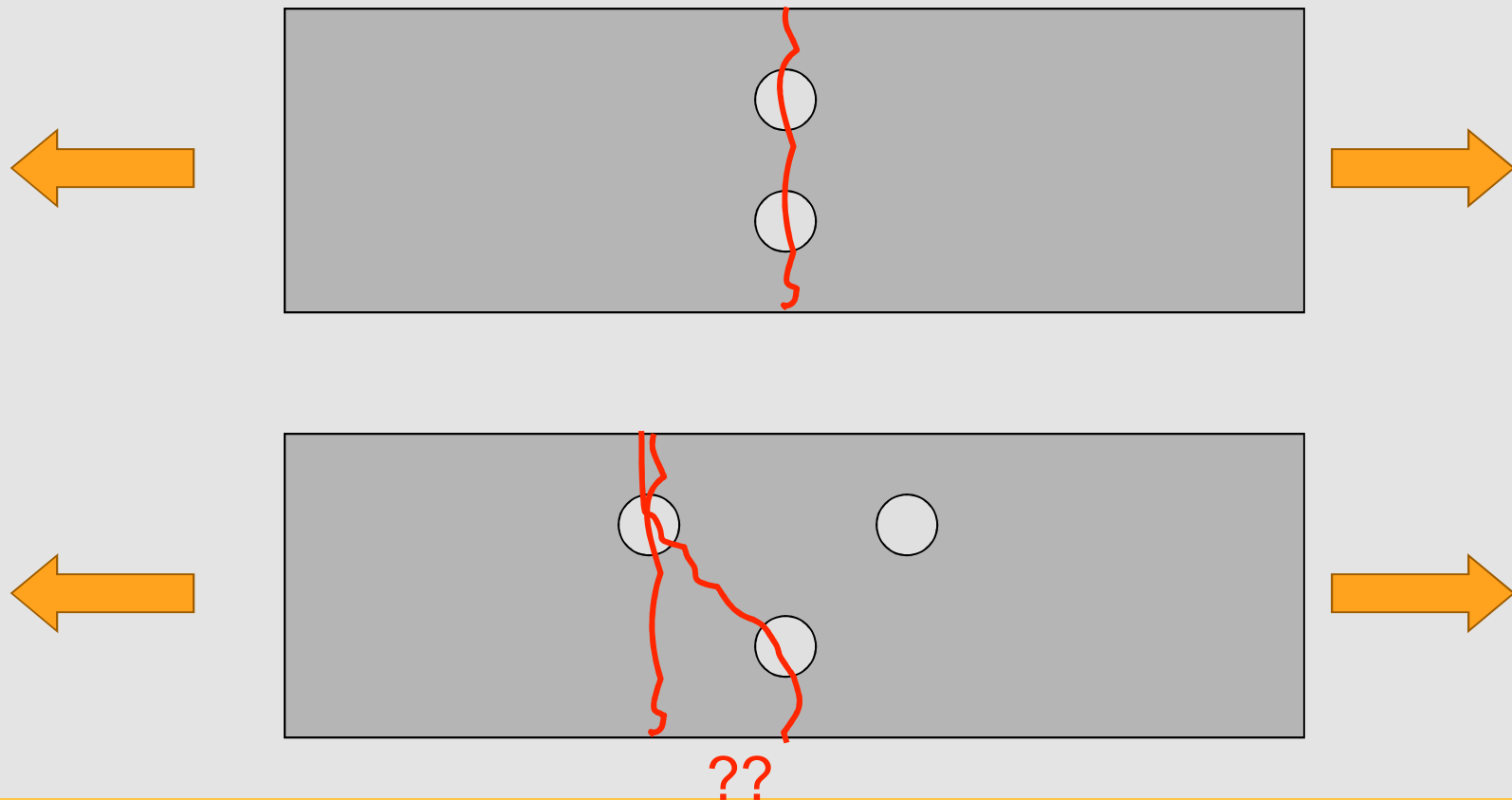
= the bolt diameter + 1/8"

# Simple Example

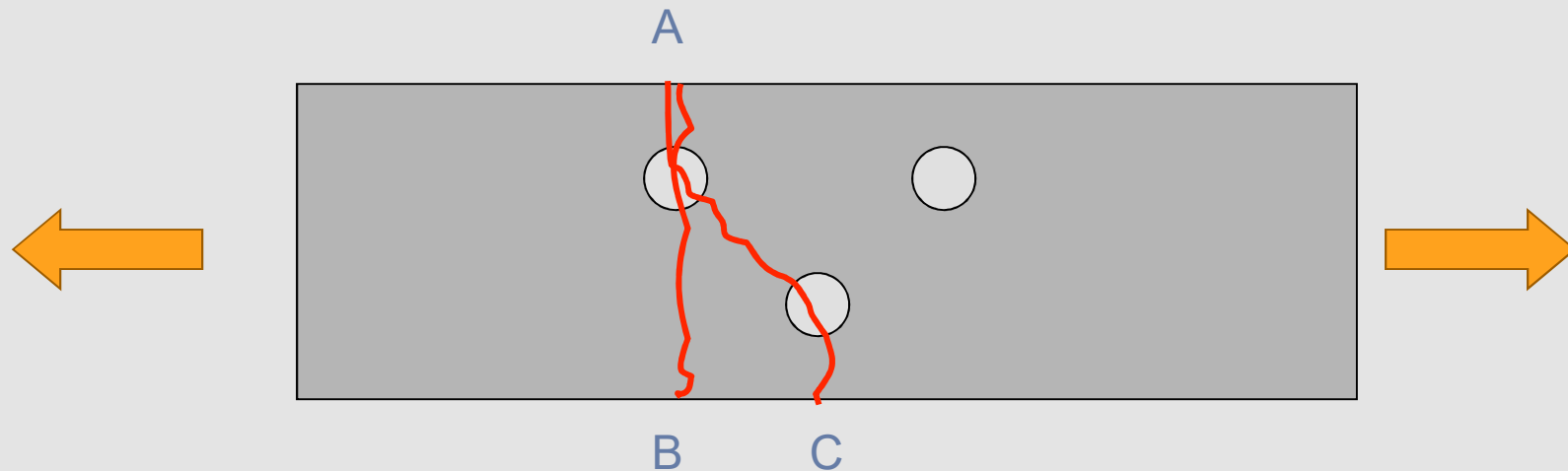
What is the net area for the tension member below?



# Effect of Staggered Holes on Net Area



# Staggered Holes



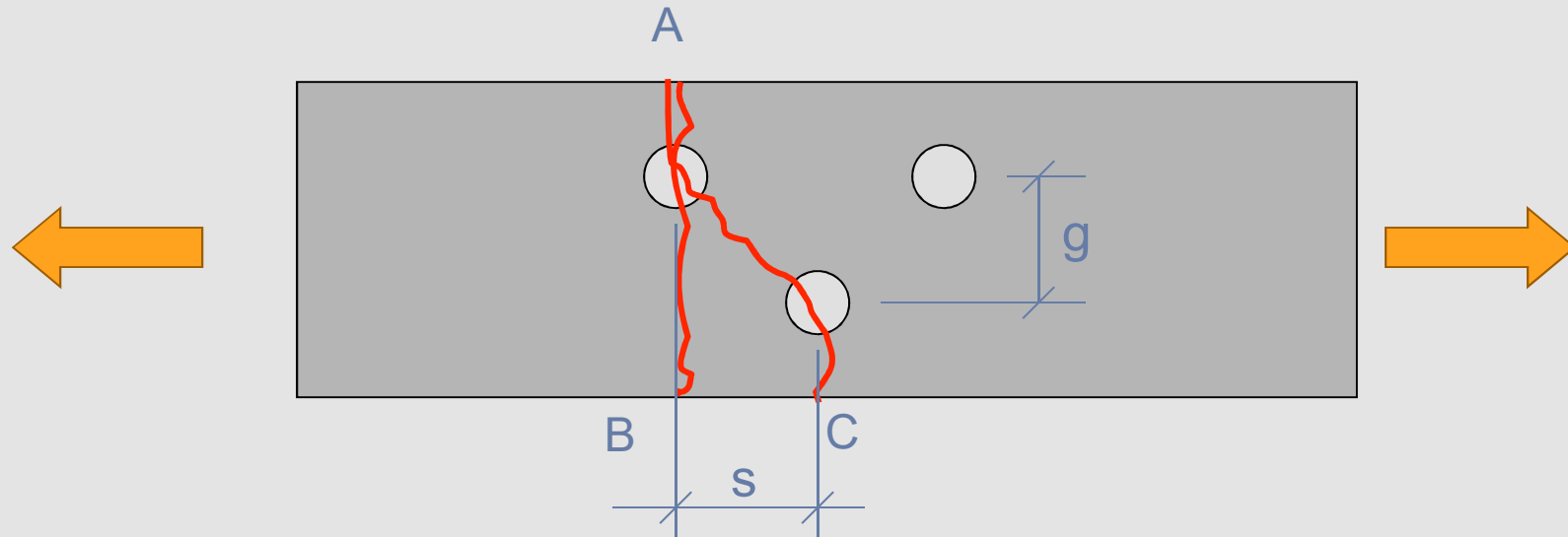
More than one controlling failure line may exist. The controlling failure line is that which gives the minimum net area.

A-B may govern (One Hole), or A-C may govern (Two Holes). Both must be checked.

Accurate checking of strength along A-C is complex. So the Spec provides a simplified empirical procedure (Cochrane - 1922).



# Stagger



Length Correction for Stagger =  $s^2/4g$

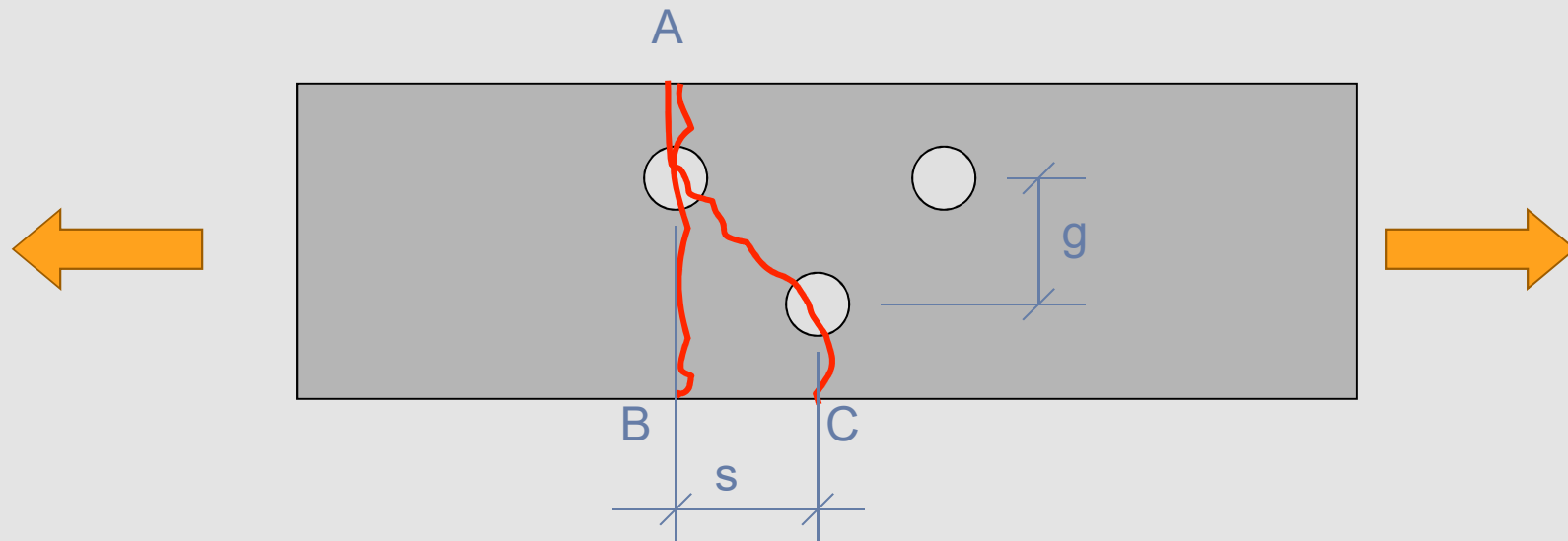
$s$  = spacing or pitch (c-to-c)

$g$  = gage (c-to-c)

Add length correction to net width of part

Spec B4.3b

# Stagger



Net Length A-B = Length A-B – (Hole Width + 1/8)

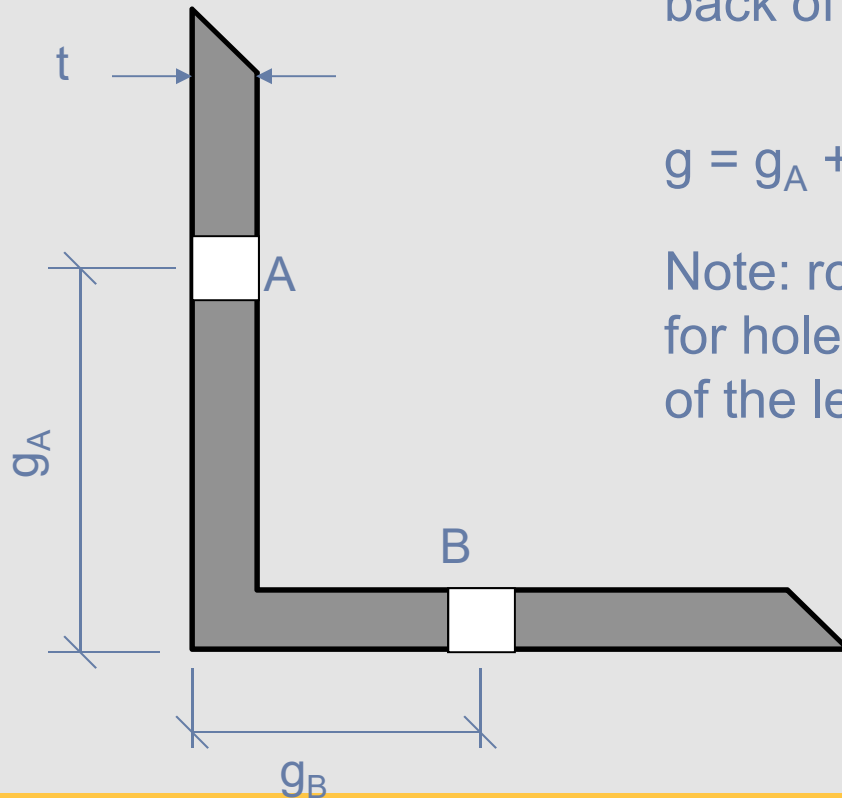
Net Length A-C = Length A-B – 2 x (Hole Width + 1/8) +  $s^2/4g$

# Angles and Net Area

The  $g$  in  $s^2/4g$  is obtained by summing the gage from the centers of the holes to the back of the angle, less the angle thickness.

$$g = g_A + g_B - t$$

Note: rolled angles have standard gages for hole locations depending on the length of the leg (Table 1-7A)



# Effective Net Area

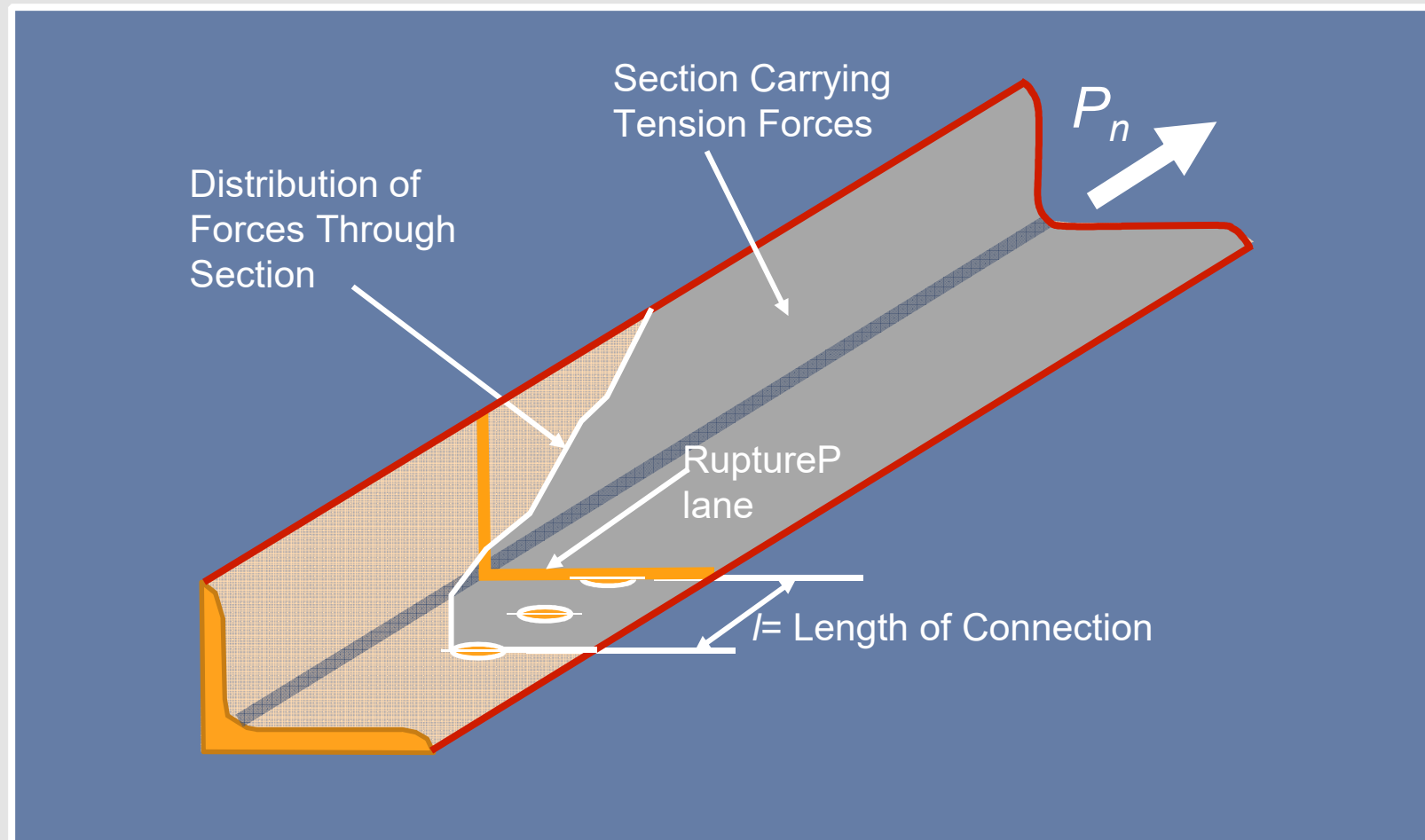
- Accounts for the efficiency of the connection
- “Shear Lag” effect:
  - Occurs when not all elements in a cross-section are part of connection
  - Non-uniform stress distribution between the connected and un-connected elements occurs
  - A function of the length of the connection
    - The greater the connection length, the less the impact of shear lag

# Effective Net Area

- $A_e = A_n$  when the load is transmitted to each cross-sectional element by connectors.
- $A_e = UA_n$  when the load is transmitted by bolts through some but not all of the cross-sectional elements.
- $A_e = UA_g$  when the load is transmitted by welds through some but not all of the cross-sectional elements.
- $U$  is a reduction factor on the area

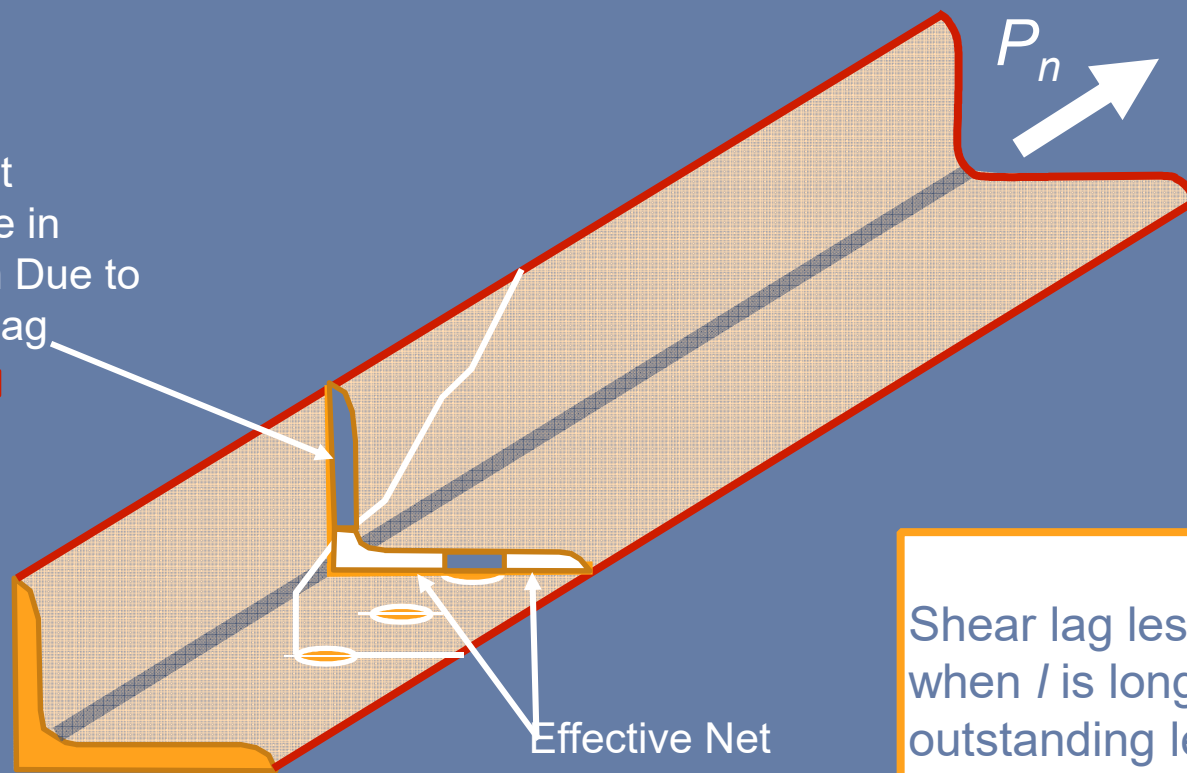


# Shear Lag



# Shear Lag

Area not  
Effective in  
Tension Due to  
Shear Lag



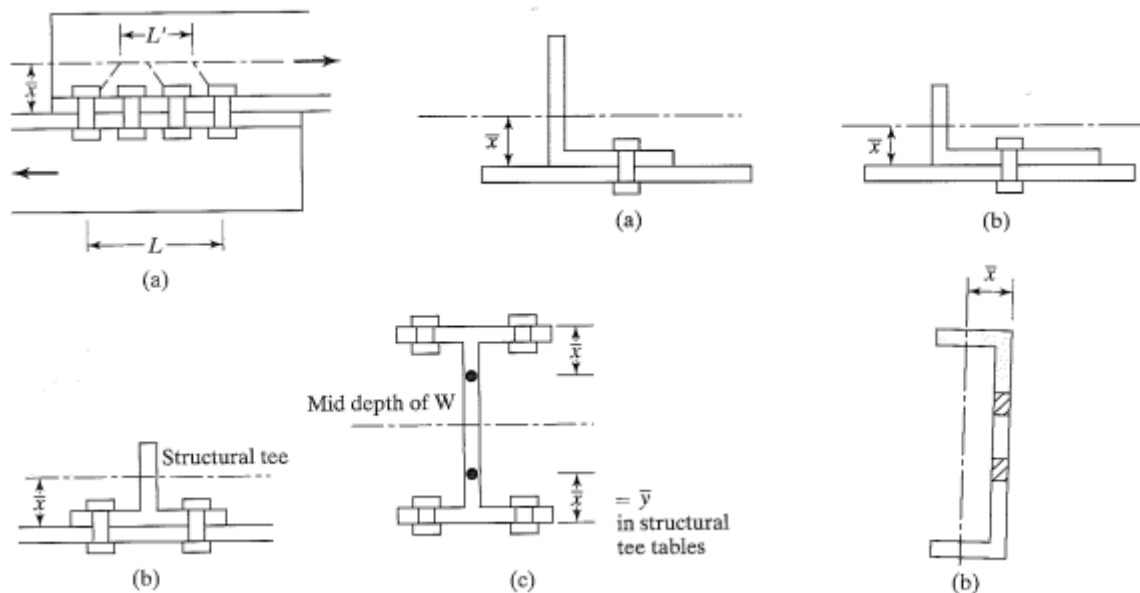
Effective Net  
Area in Tension




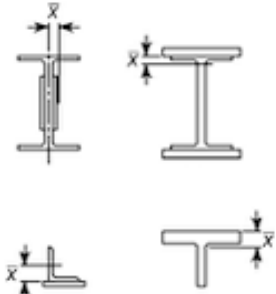

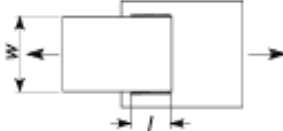
Shear lag less influential  
when  $l$  is long, or if  
outstanding leg has minimal  
area or eccentricity

# Determining U

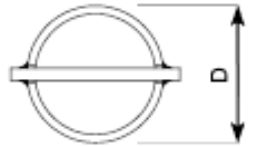
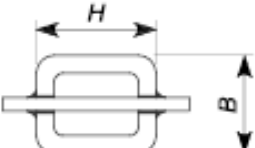
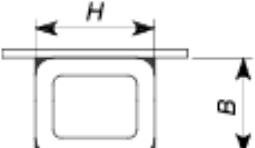




- $U = 1 - \frac{\bar{x}}{L}$
- $\bar{x}$  = distance from the plane of the connection to the centroid of the tension member



**TABLE D3.1**  
**Shear Lag Factors for Connections**  
**to Tension Members**

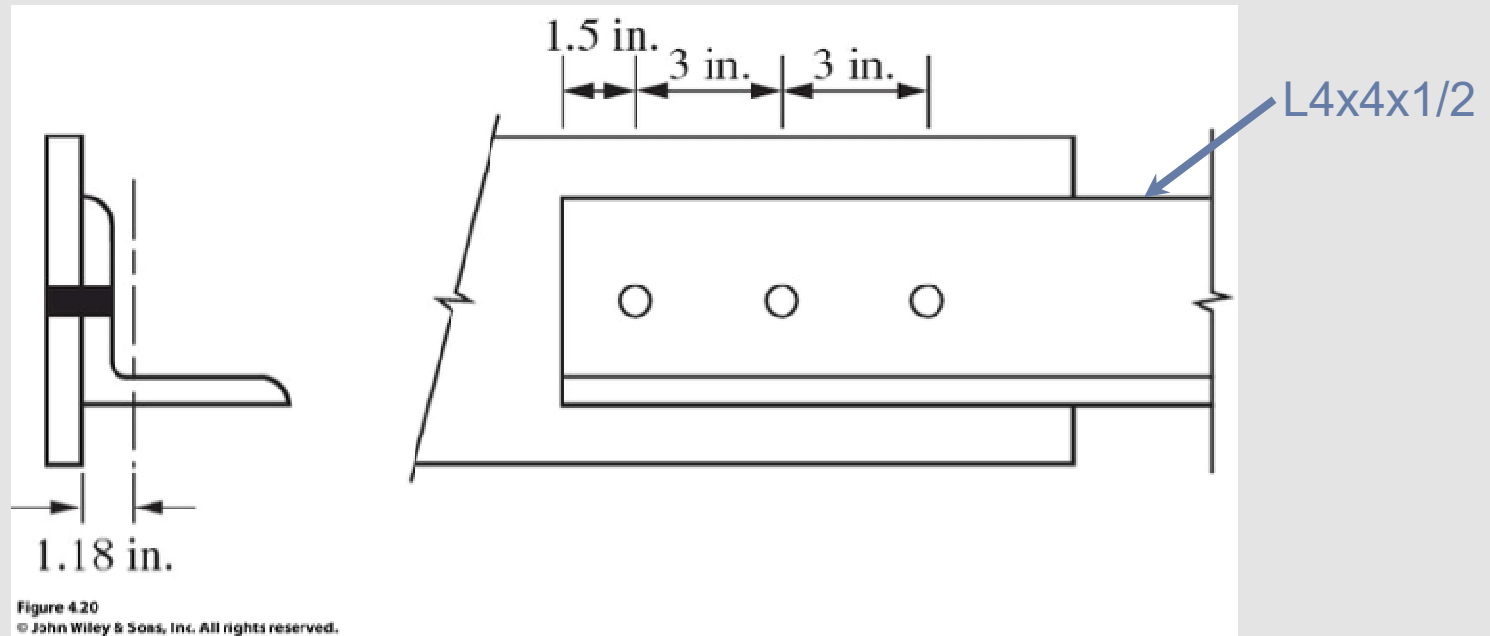
Case	Description of Element	Shear Lag Factor, $U$	Example
1	All tension members where the tension load is transmitted directly to each of the cross-sectional elements by fasteners or welds (except as in Cases 4, 5 and 6).	$U = 1.0$	
2	All tension members, except plates and HSS, where the tension load is transmitted to some but not all of the cross-sectional elements by fasteners or longitudinal welds or by longitudinal welds in combination with transverse welds. (Alternatively, for W, M, S and HP, Case 7 may be used. For angles, Case 8 may be used.)	$U = 1 - \bar{x}/l$	
3	All tension members where the tension load is transmitted only by transverse welds to some but not all of the cross-sectional elements.	$U = 1.0$ and $A_n$ = area of the directly connected elements	
4	Plates where the tension load is transmitted by longitudinal welds only.	$l \geq 2w \dots U = 1.0$ $2w > l \geq 1.5w \dots U = 0.87$ $1.5w > l \geq w \dots U = 0.75$	

$l$  = length of connection, in. (mm);  $w$  = plate width, in. (mm);  $\bar{x}$  = eccentricity of connection, in. (mm);  $B$  = overall width of rectangular HSS member, measured 90° to the plane of the connection, in. (mm);  $H$  = overall height of rectangular HSS member, measured in the plane of the connection, in. (mm)

5	Round HSS with a single concentric gusset plate		$l \geq 1.3D \dots U = 1.0$ $D \leq l < 1.3D \dots U = 1 - \bar{x}/l$ $\bar{x} = D/\pi$	
6	Rectangular HSS	with a single concentric gusset plate	$l \geq H \dots U = 1 - \bar{x}/l$ $\bar{x} = \frac{B^2 + 2BH}{4(B+H)}$	
		with two side gusset plates	$l \geq H \dots U = 1 - \bar{x}/l$ $\bar{x} = \frac{B^2}{4(B+H)}$	
7	W, M, S or HP Shapes or Tees cut from these shapes. (If U is calculated per Case 2, the larger value is permitted to be used.)	with flange connected with 3 or more fasteners per line in the direction of loading	$b_f \geq 2/3d \dots U = 0.90$ $b_f < 2/3d \dots U = 0.85$	
		with web connected with 4 or more fasteners per line in the direction of loading	$U = 0.70$	
8	Single and double angles (If U is calculated per Case 2, the larger value is permitted to be used.)	with 4 or more fasteners per line in the direction of loading	$U = 0.80$	
		with 3 fasteners per line in the direction of loading (With fewer than 3 fasteners per line in the direction of loading, use Case 2.)	$U = 0.60$	



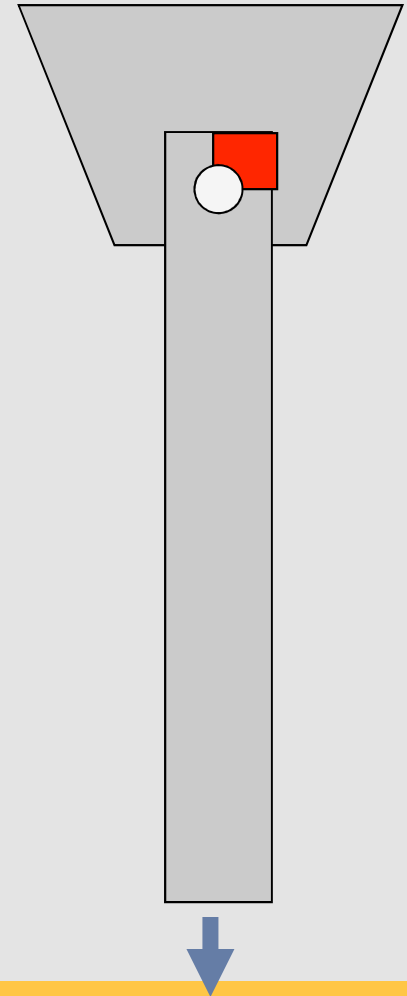
# Shear Lag Example



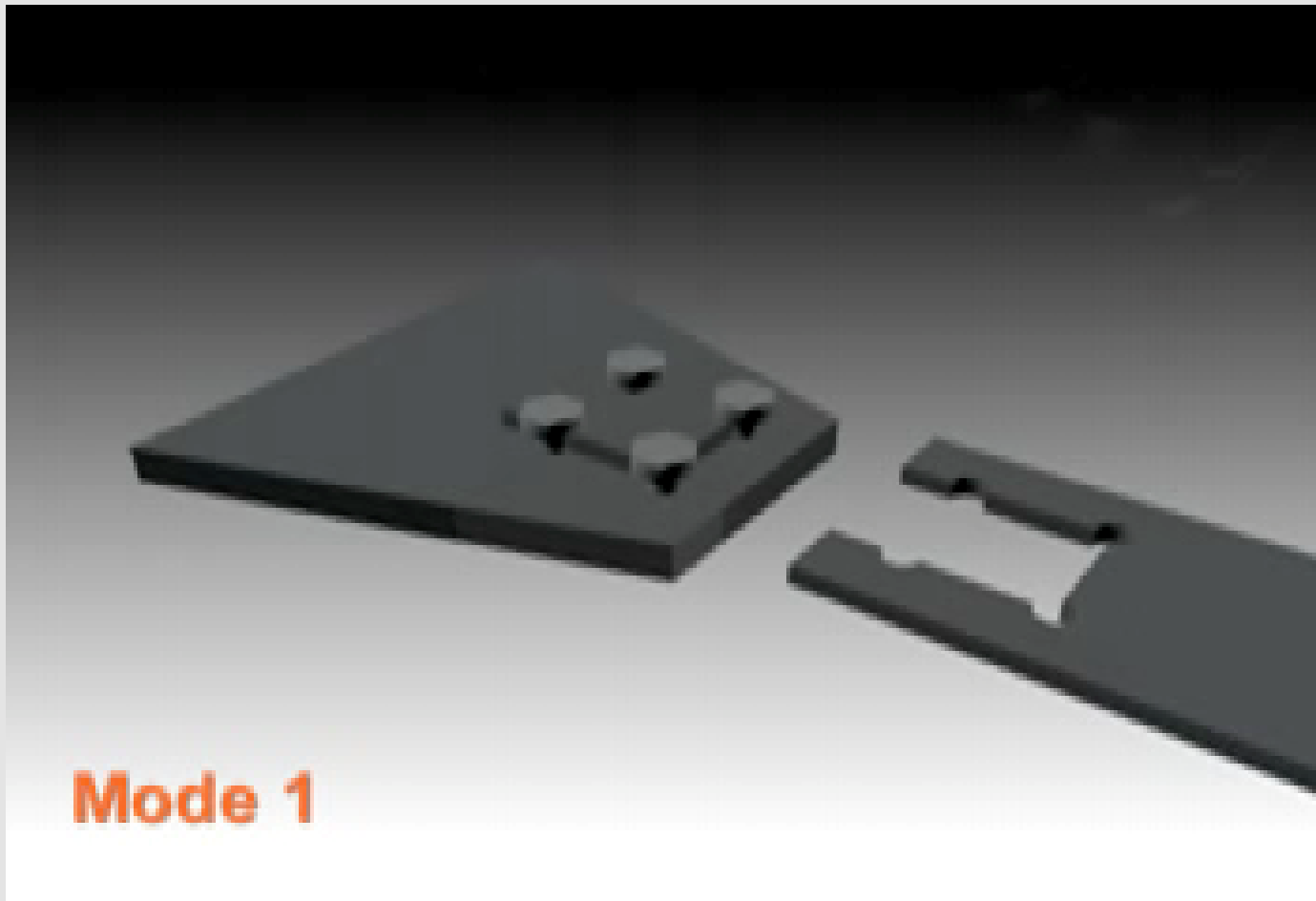
Determine  $U$  per Table D3.1

# Block Shear

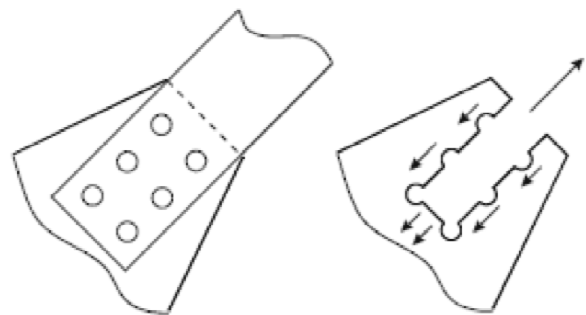
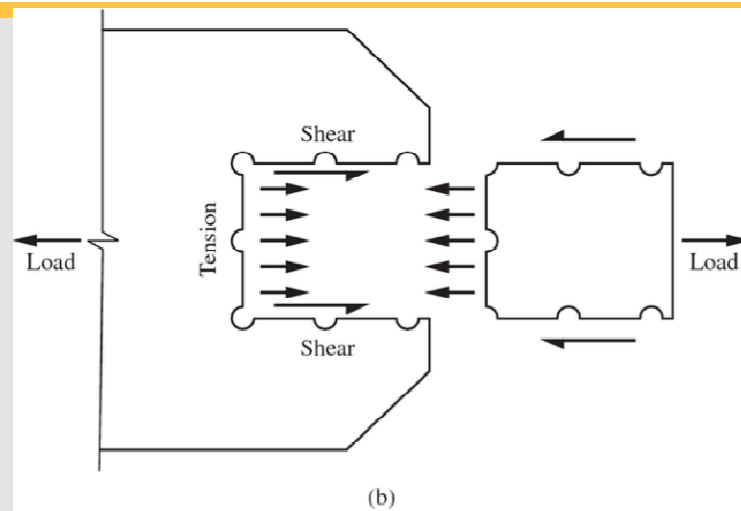
- Tear-out of piece of steel in a connection from combined tensile rupture and shear rupture or shear yield failures



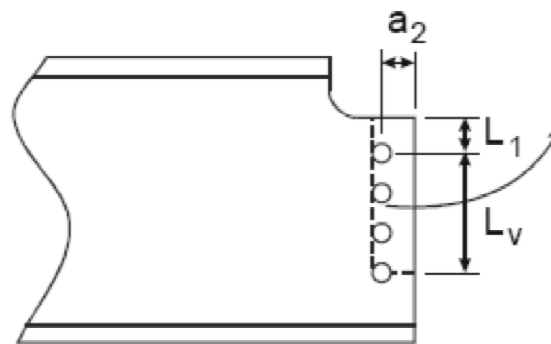
# Block Shear



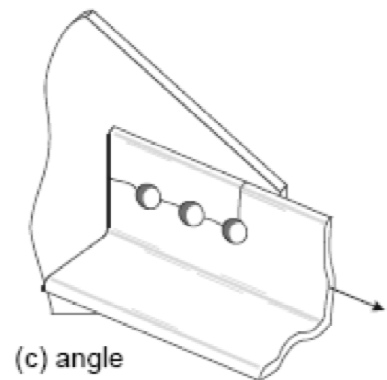
# Examples of Block Shear



(a) gusset plate



(b) coped beam



(c) angle

Figure 1 – Examples of Block Shear

# Block Shear Failures



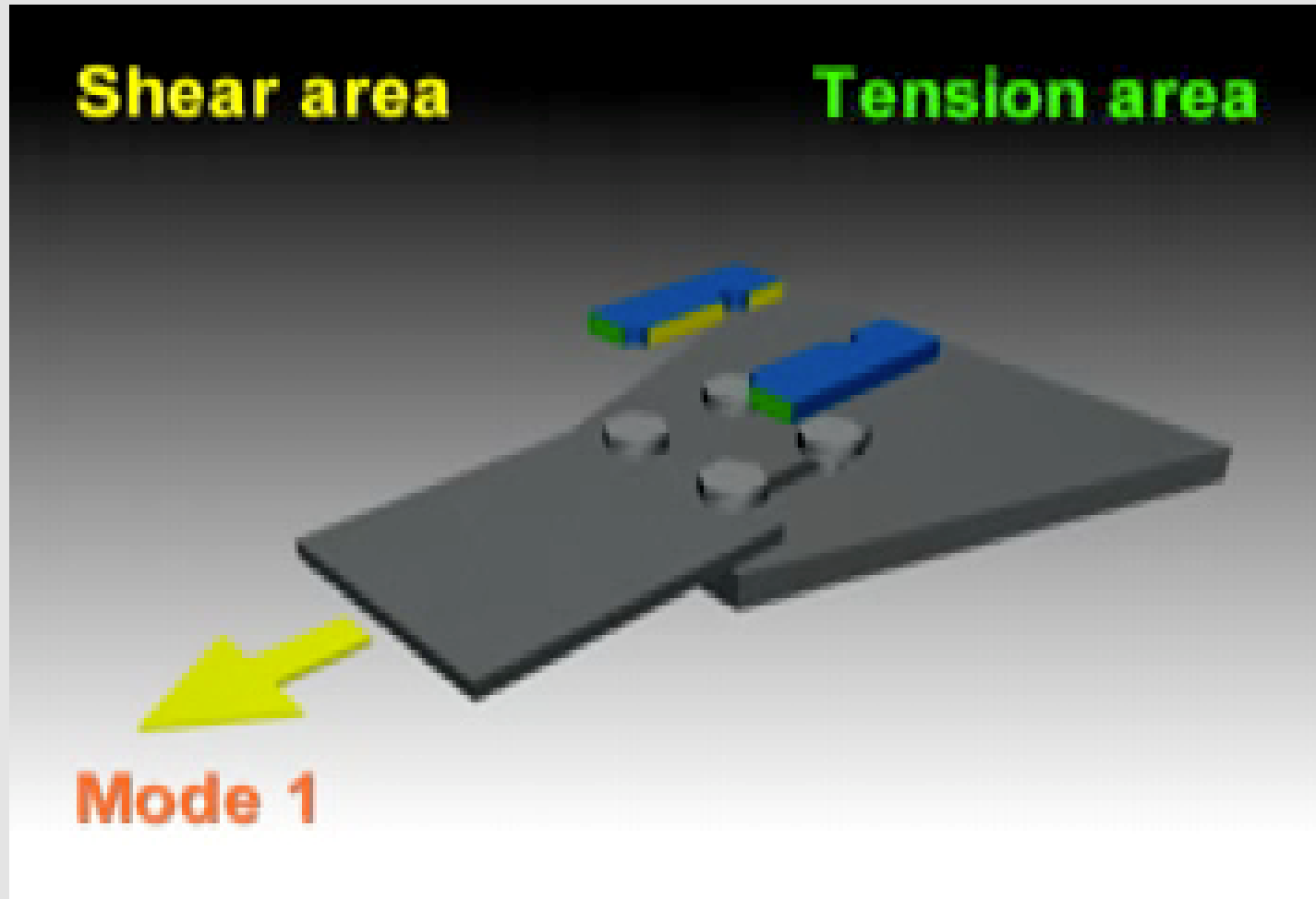
Figure 4.22a  
Photo courtesy Robert Driver

Shear Rupture



Shear Yield

# Block Shear Areas



# Block Shear Components

- Tensile Rupture component

$$F_u A_{nt}$$

- Shear Rupture & Shear Yield components

$$0.6 F_u A_{nv} \text{ (Shear Rupture)}$$

$$0.6 F_y A_{gv} \text{ (Shear Yield)}$$

Spec J4.3

# Block Shear Limit States

$$R_n = 0.6 F_u A_{nv} + U_{bs} F_u A_{nt} \\ \leq 0.6 F_y A_{gv} + U_{bs} F_u A_{nt}$$

- Tension Rupture included in both cases
- Uses lesser of Shear Rupture or Shear Yield
- For design strength,  $\phi = 0.75$

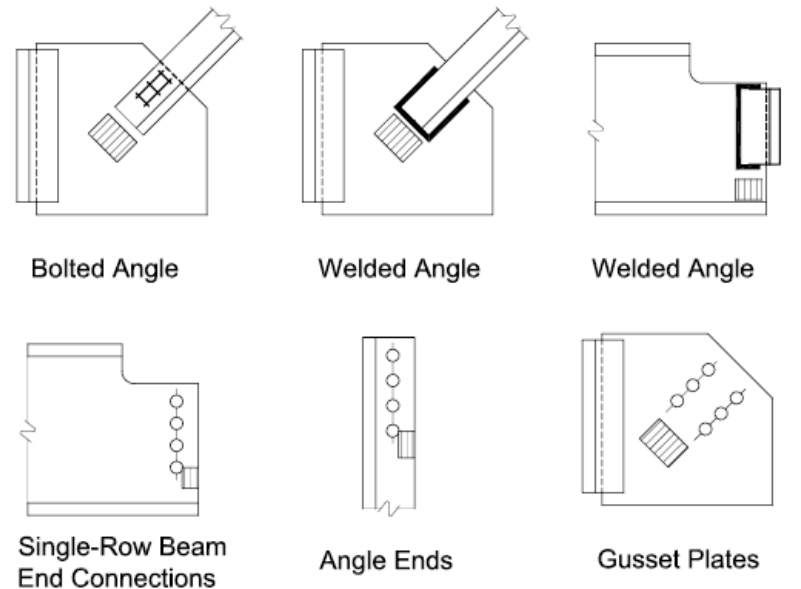
Spec J4.3



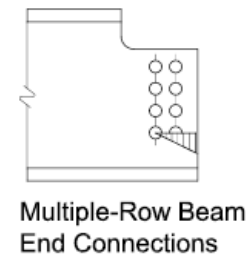
# Block Shear Reduction Factor

- Uniform Tensile Stress:  $U_{bs} = 1.0$
- Non-Uniform Tensile Stress:  $U_{bs} = 0.5$
- $U_{bs} = 1.0$  typically applies for tension member connections

Spec C-J4.3



(a) Cases for which  $U_{bs} = 1.0$



(b) Cases for which  $U_{bs} = 0.5$

# Serviceability Limit State

## Serviceability

- Although stability does not affect tension member strength, there is a maximum slenderness ratio suggested.
- Prevents excessive sag and flexibility.
- Preferably  $L/r \leq 300$ 
  - $r = \text{radius of gyration} = \sqrt{\frac{I}{A}}$
- Refer to Spec, Section D1

# Design Process

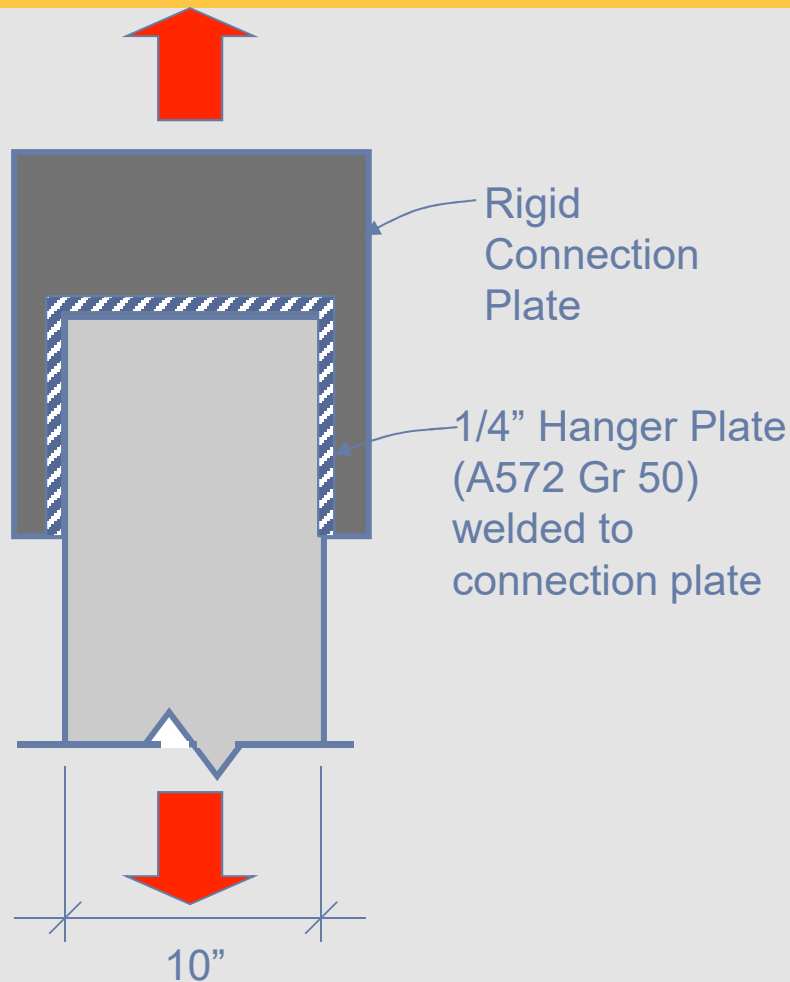
- Required Strength  $\leq$  Design Strength
  - Check all three potential strength limit states
- $P_u \leq$  Lesser of:
  - $0.9 F_y A_g$
  - $0.75 F_u A_e$
  - Block Shear strength
- Check Serviceability

Questions?

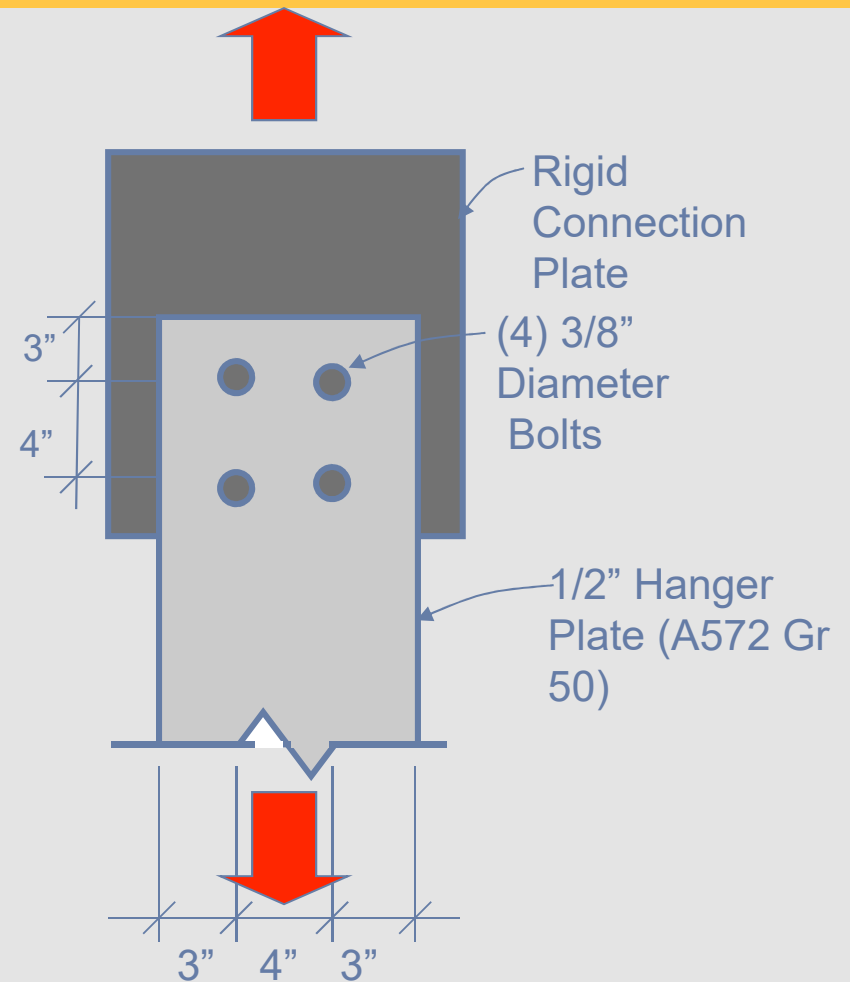
# Example Problem

- You have designed a welded connection detail for the hanger plate shown in the figure labeled “Designed Detail”.
- You utilized a welded connection in order to develop the full tensile capacity of the plate.
- The contractor doesn’t want to weld the connection so he proposed a bolted connection shown in the figure labeled “Proposed Detail”.
- The contractor is aware that the bolts will decrease the capacity of the plate hanger so he proposes thickening the hanger plate as indicated.
- Will you approve of the bolted connection in lieu of the welded connection? Provide all necessary calculations to justify your response.

# Example Problem



Designed Detail



Proposed Detail

# Example Problem

A572 Grade 50 Steel

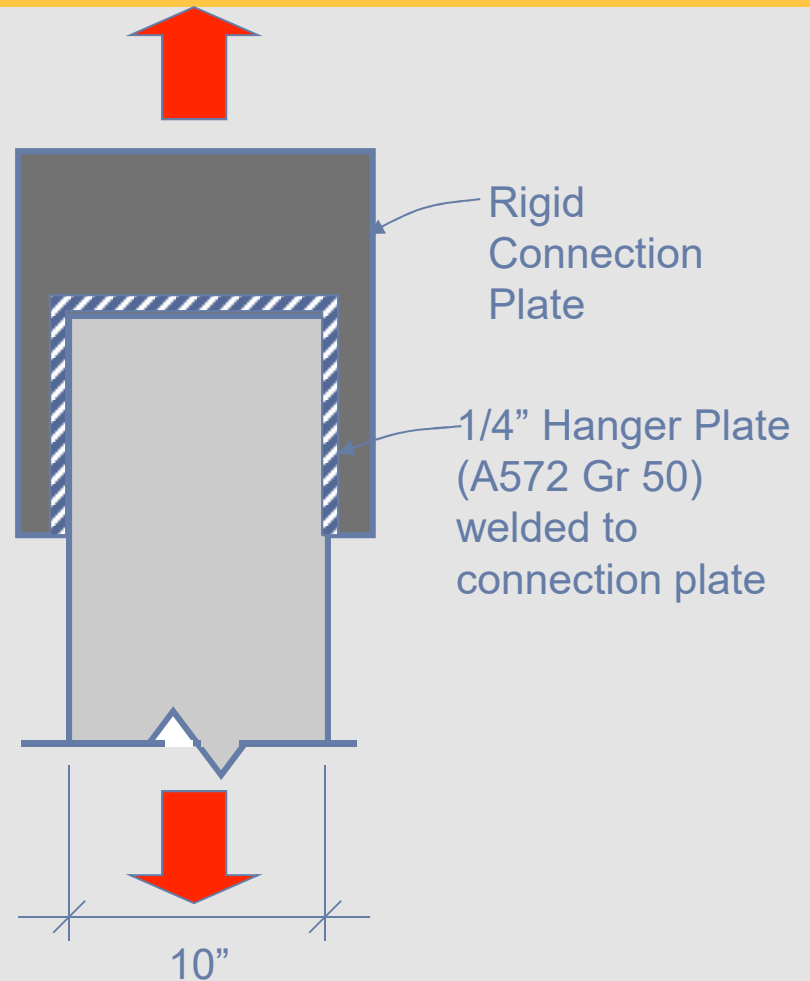
$F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$

$F_u = 65 \text{ ksi}$

Strength of Original Plate:

yielding:  $A_g = \frac{1}{4}'' \cdot 10'' = 2.5 \text{ in}^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi P_n &= \Phi F_y \cdot A_g \\ &= 0.9 \cdot 50 \text{ ksi} \cdot 2.5 \text{ in}^2 \\ &= \mathbf{113 \text{ kips}}\end{aligned}$$



Designed Detail

# Example Problem

## A572 Grade 50 Steel

$F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$

$F_u = 65 \text{ ksi}$

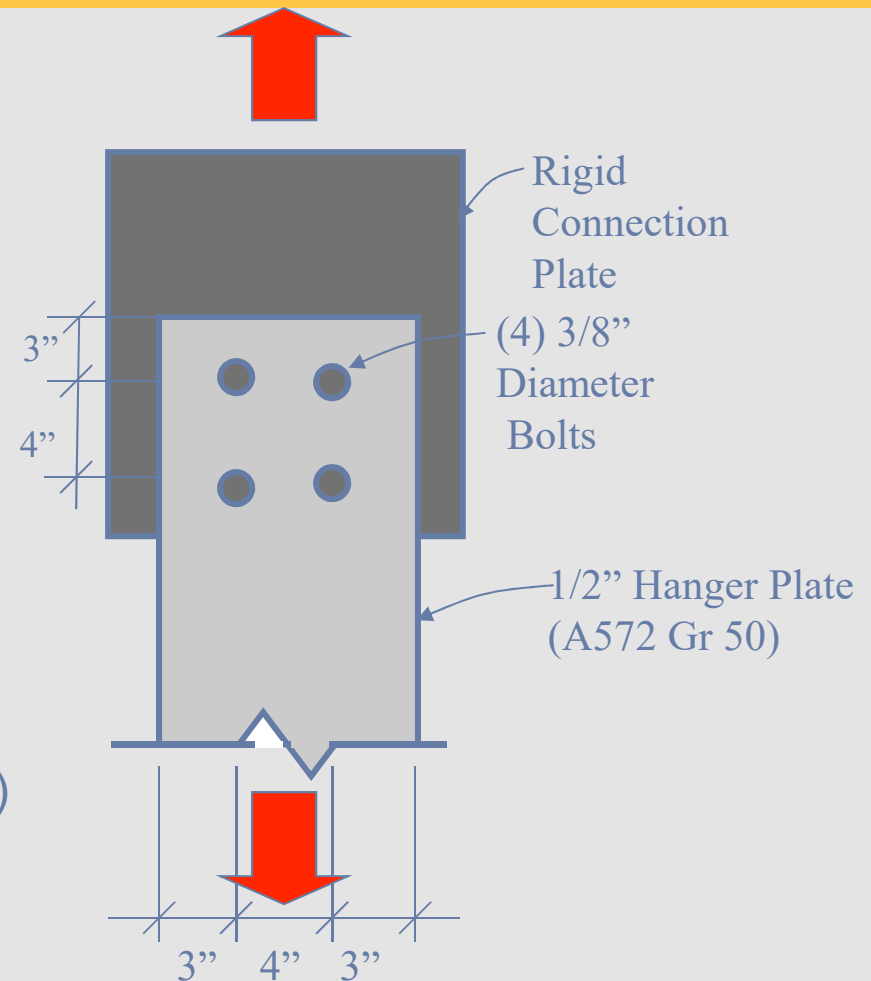
## Strength of Proposed Plate:

1. yielding:  $A_g = \frac{1}{2}'' \cdot 10'' = 5.0 \text{ in}^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi P_n &= \Phi F_y \cdot A_g \\ &= 0.9 \cdot 50 \text{ ksi} \cdot 5.0 \text{ in}^2 \\ &= 225 \text{ kips}\end{aligned}$$

2. fracture:  $A_n = (\frac{1}{2}'')(10'' - 2 \cdot (\frac{3}{8}'' + \frac{1}{8}''))$   
 $= 4.5 \text{ in}^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi P_n &= \Phi F_u \cdot A_n \\ &= 0.75 \cdot 65 \text{ ksi} \cdot 4.5 \text{ in}^2 \\ &= 219 \text{ kips}\end{aligned}$$



Proposed Detail



# Example Problem

## A572 Grade 50 Steel

$$F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$$

$$F_u = 65 \text{ ksi}$$

## Nominal Capacity:

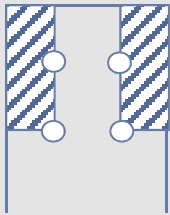
$$R_n = 0.6 F_u A_{nv} + U_{bs} F_u A_{nt}$$

$$= 0.6 F_y A_{gv} + U_{bs} F_u A_{nt}$$

- Use the lesser of the two equations

## Strength of Proposed Plate:

### 3. Block shear:



$$A_{nt} = 2.75 \text{ in}^2$$

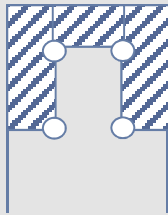
$$A_{nv} = 6.25 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{gv} = 7.0 \text{ in}^2$$

$$R_n = 423 \text{ kips}$$

$$= 389 \text{ kips}$$

$$\Phi R_n = 292 \text{ kips}$$



$$A_{nt} = 4.5 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{nv} = 3.5 \text{ in}^2$$

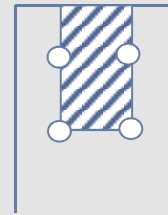
$$A_{gv} = 4.0 \text{ in}^2$$

$$R_n = 429 \text{ kips}$$

$$= 413 \text{ kips}$$

$$\Phi R_n = 309 \text{ kips}$$

### GOVERNING CASE



$$A_{nt} = 1.75 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{nv} = 6.25 \text{ in}^2$$

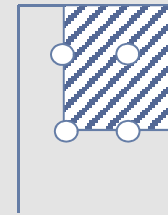
$$A_{gv} = 7.0 \text{ in}^2$$

$$R_n = 358 \text{ kips}$$

$$= 324 \text{ kips}$$

$$\Phi R_n = 243 \text{ kips}$$

### NOT A REAL CASE



$$A_{nt} = 3.0 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{nv} = 3.0 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{gv} = 3.5 \text{ in}^2$$

$$R_n = 312 \text{ kips}$$

$$= 300 \text{ kips}$$

$$\Phi R_n = 225 \text{ kips}$$

# Example Problem

A572 Grade 50 Steel

$F_y = 50$  ksi

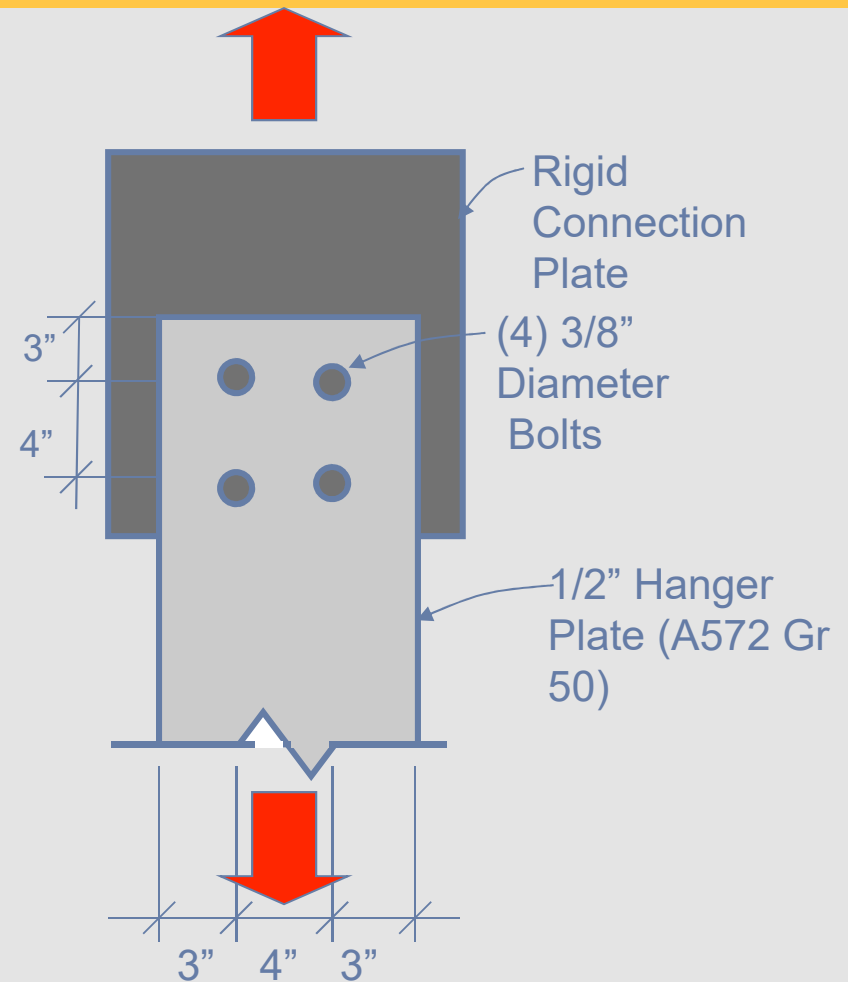
$F_u = 65$  ksi

Strength of Proposed Plate:

1. yielding:  $\Phi P_n = 225$  kips

2. fracture:  $\Phi P_n = \mathbf{219}$  kips

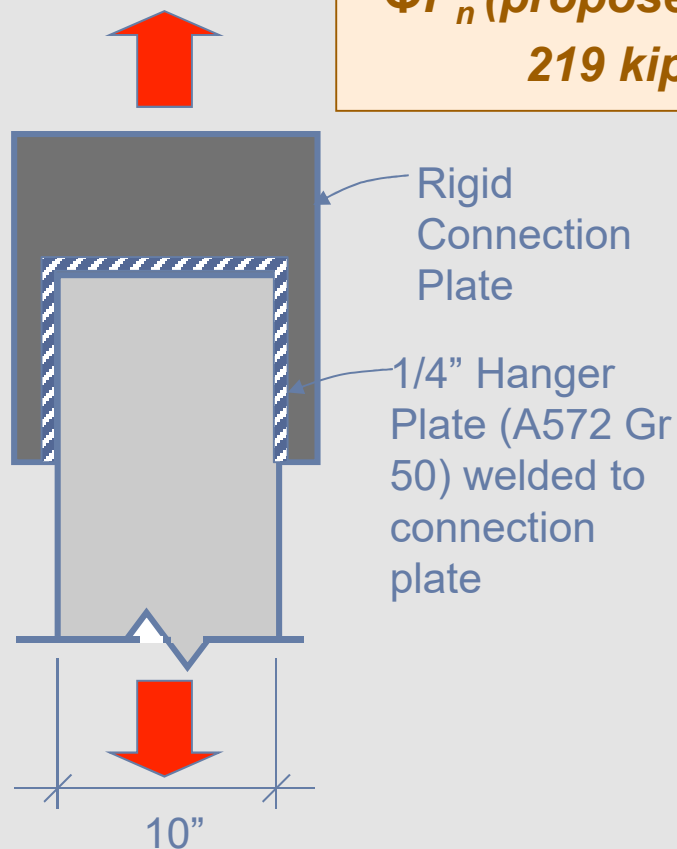
3. Block shear:  $\Phi P_n = 243$  kips



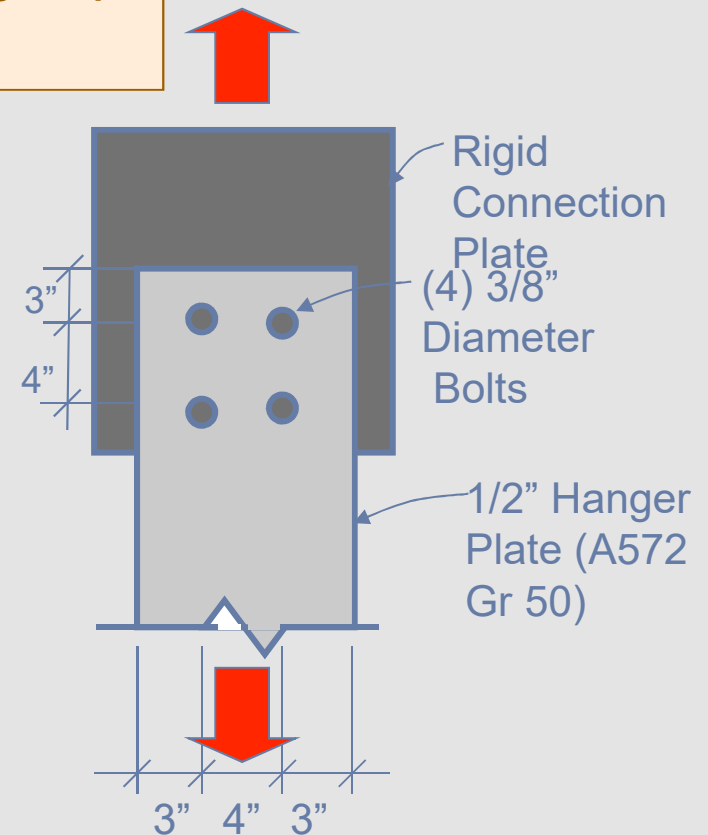
Proposed Detail

# Example Problem

**CONNECTION APPROVED SINCE**  
 **$\Phi P_n$  (proposed) >  $\Phi P_n$  (original)**  
**219 kips > 113 kips**



Designed Detail



Proposed Detail

Questions?